



Top Perennials for Sun

This is a list of some of the best perennials that will accept varying degrees of sun for East Texas. A perennial plant is a type of plant that lives for more than two years, regrowing and blooming each season after going dormant during the colder months. Unlike annuals, which complete their life cycle in one growing season, perennials can survive through various seasons, producing new growth from the same roots each year. They often require less replanting and maintenance, making them a popular choice for gardeners who want long-lasting greenery and flowers. Common examples of perennials include daylilies, coneflowers, and salvia. See a Plants of Texas Garden Associate for help in determining the best plants for your landscape needs.

- 1. Arizona Sun Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia x grandiflora* 'Arizona Sun')**
A large, 3-inch dark red flower with yellow ruffled edges. Blooms in summer. Grows 8 to 10 inches tall with a spread of 10 to 12 inches. Drought tolerant.
- 2. Autumn Sage (*Salvia greggii*)**
Various cultivars in red, pink, coral, purple, yellow, and white. Blooms all spring into fall. Grows 12 to 14 inches tall and 14 to 16 inches wide. Requires good drainage.
- 3. Bee Balm (*Monarda*)**
Used medicinally and as a pollinator. Needs at least 6 hours of sunlight. Grows up to 4 feet tall and wide.
- 4. Belleza® Dark Pink Gaura (*Gaura lindheimeri*)**
Blooms tons of dark pink flowers from spring to fall. Grows 12 to 18 inches tall and 18 to 24 inches wide. Drought and deer tolerant.

5. **Belleza® White Gaura (*Gaura lindheimeri*)**
Similar to the dark pink variety, but blooms white flowers from spring to fall. Grows 12 to 18 inches tall and 18 to 24 inches wide. Drought and deer tolerant.
6. **Bicolor Iris (*Iris* 'Bicolor')**
Blooms yellow rounded flowers with maroon details in spring through early summer. Grows 2 feet tall and wide. Low maintenance.
7. **Blue Marvel Meadow Sage (*Salvia nemorosa* 'Blue Marvel')**
Plants of Texas' #1 *Salvia* variety. Blooms extra-large purple-blue flowers from spring through summer. Grows 10 to 12 inches tall and wide. Heat and drought tolerant.
8. **Canna (*Canna x generalis*)**
Needs at least 6 hours of direct sunlight daily and more water intake than other perennials. Grows 2 to 10 feet tall and 2 to 6 feet wide depending on variety.
9. **Cheyenne Spirit Coneflower (*Echinacea* 'Cheyenne Spirit')**
Produces colorful blooms in yellow, orange, red, pink, purple, and white. Blooms mid-summer to early fall. Grows 2 feet tall and wide. Drought and deer tolerant.
10. **Daylily (*Hemerocallis* 'Stella de Oro')**
Plants of Texas' #1 Daylily. Blooms showy gold-colored flowers in mid to late summer. Grows 10 to 12 inches tall and 12 to 18 inches wide. Perfect for edging, massing, and borders.
11. **Firewitch Dianthus (*Dianthus gratianopolitanus* 'Feuerhexe')**
Blooms bright magenta carnation-like flowers from spring until frost. Grows 6 to 8 inches tall and 10 to 12 inches wide. Heat and deer tolerant.
12. **Gold Star Esperanza (*Tecoma stans* 'Lonesp')**
Produces trumpet-shaped golden yellow flowers from summer to frost. Grows 6 to 7 feet tall and wide. Suitable for foundation planting, containers, and tropical accents.
13. **Homestead Purple Verbena (*Verbena canadensis* 'Homestead Purple')**
A groundcover with deep purple flowers that bloom all summer. Grows 1

foot tall and 3 feet wide. Ideal for borders, hanging baskets, and rock gardens.

14. Iris Bearded (*Iris germanica* spp.)

Dramatic large flowers bloom mid-spring. Low maintenance and great for mixing with other plants. Makes a gorgeous cut flower.

15. Jethro Tull Coreopsis (*Coreopsis* 'Jethro Tull')

Produces bright yellow fluted flowers. Grows 12 to 15 inches tall and 15 to 18 inches wide. Heavy blooms in mid-spring. Drought and deer tolerant.

16. Jewel of Desert Garnet Ice Plant (*Delosperma cooperi* 'Jewel of Desert Garnet')

Blooms bright red flowers with a hot pink eye from spring until frost. Grows 4 to 6 inches tall and 6 to 8 inches wide. Drought and deer tolerant.

17. Lemon Ball Sedum (*Sedum mexicanum*)

Plants of Texas' #1 Sedum variety. Lemon-yellow foliage grows 3 to 10 inches tall and 8 to 12 inches wide. Heat and drought tolerant.

18. Russian Sage (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*)

A fragrant perennial with pale blue flowers and gray-green stems. Thrives in heat and full sun. Grows 3 to 4 feet tall and wide. Deer tolerant.

19. Sombrero® Tres Amigos Coneflower (*Echinacea* 'Balsomtresgo')

Blooms coral-peach flowers that age to rose pink and fade to burgundy. Grows 18 to 20 inches tall and 20 to 24 inches wide. Drought and deer tolerant.

20. SuperBlue Lavender (*Lavandula angustifolia* 'SuperBlue')

Produces deep blue flower spikes all summer. Compact and tolerant of cold, heat, and humidity. Grows 10 to 12 inches tall and wide. Deer tolerant.

21. Walker's Low Catmint (*Nepeta x faassenii* 'Walker's Low')

Blooms bluish-purple flowers from late spring to early fall. Grows 12 to 14 inches tall and 18 to 24 inches wide. Fragrant and deer tolerant.